

The Link Between Self Esteem and Cultural Identity: Student Reflections and Attitudes During the Class Study of Stamped

What brought you to this work?

Our desire is to study the effect of learning culturally relevant material through the use of a book study. It is known that students with higher self esteem tend to perform better in school and persist to graduation. As students learn more about themselves and the way they are agents of their own destiny, the hope is there will be a renewed interest and pride in courses and school performance.

Book studies provide a common experience for all involved. Having a book study about the power of being a black person in the world today, provides an important conversation that some students may not be able to participate in with their parents or caregivers. The authenticity that will be portrayed during the book study and accompanying activities, will hopefully provide an increased self esteem, confidence, and pride in their culture.

Research questions

How does the participation in a targeted Book Study influence cultural identity and self esteem? How does self esteem affect their attitude about school and their ability to perform in school? What factors have the most influence on a student's self esteem? How does how the students feel about themselves and their history affect their academic performance? How does trauma influence their school performance, self esteem, cultural identity?

Research plan

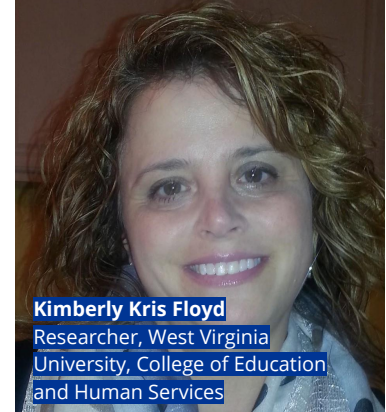
Students will receive a copy of the book, *Stamped*, and a special journal for note taking and activities. Students will be asked to complete several questionnaires (self esteem, cultural identity). At the close of the book study, journals will be collected and analyzed.

Working together

Jason and Kim come from two very different backgrounds but through working together on the research they have learned a lot about each other. Their shared passion is cultivating in Jason's students a love and self awareness through culturally relevant learning and discussions.



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